

### **Amendment to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A joint member used in joining a wiper arm and a wiper blade together, comprising:

a fitting member which is mounted on a wiper blade main-body and fits to the wiper arm;

a fixing member which holds and fixes the wiper arm between the fixing member and the fitting member; and

a flexible connecting portion which connects the fitting member and the fixing member together,

the fitting member being adapted to fit into an inner side of a hook portion provided in the wiper arm, and the fixing member being adapted to support the hook portion by sandwiching the hook portion between the fixing member and the fitting member,

the fixing member being a case-like structure adapted to be mounted on the upper sides of the fitting member and the hook portion to cover the fitting member and the hook portion,

the fixing member including a side portion adapted to be disposed on a side of the hook portion and a front portion disposed on a front end side of the side portion, and thereby a leading end portion of the hook portion can be supported by being sandwiched between the front portion and the fitting member,

the wiper blade main-body including a mounting pin that extends orthogonally to the longitudinal direction of the wiper blade, and

the side portion of the fixing member including a mounting hole for receiving the mounting pin,

wherein the connecting portion connects the fitting member and the fixing member together at an end portion of the joint member.

**2-4. (Cancelled)**

5. (Currently Amended) A joint member according to claim 1, wherein ~~the fixing member comprises side portions disposed on both sides of the hook portion and a front portion which spans across the side portions, whereby~~ the hook portion is supported by being sandwiched between the front portion of the fixing member and the fitting member.

6. (Previously Presented) A joint member according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member supports the hook portion by sandwiching the hook portion in such a manner that the side portion of the fixing member abuts against a part of the wiper blade main-body.

7. (Previously Presented) A joint member according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member is rotatably mounted on the wiper blade main-body.

8. (Previously Presented) A joint member according to claim 7, wherein the fitting member includes a mounting portion which is adapted to fit rotatably on the mounting pin.

**9-10. (Cancelled)**

11. (Previously Presented) The joint member according to claim 1, wherein the connecting portion is a plate-like member.

12. (Previously Presented) The joint member according to claim 1, wherein the fixing member, the fitting member and the connecting member are monolithically molded as one member.

13. (Currently Amended) A wiper blade including a wiper blade main body and a joint member for connecting the wiper blade to a wiper arm, the joint member comprising: which includes the joint member according to claim 1

a fitting member mounted on the wiper blade main-body and having a main body portion adapted to be fit to the wiper arm;

a fixing member which holds and fixes the wiper arm between the fixing member and the fitting member; and

a flexible connecting portion which connects the fitting member and the fixing member together,

the fitting member being adapted to fit into an inner side of a hook portion provided in the wiper arm, and the fixing member being adapted to support the hook portion by sandwiching the hook portion between the fixing member and the fitting member,

the fixing member being a case-like structure adapted to be mounted on the upper sides of the fitting member and the hook portion to cover the fitting member and the hook portion,

the fixing member including a side portion adapted to be disposed on a side of the hook portion and a front portion disposed on a front end side of the side portion, and thereby a leading end portion of the hook portion can be supported by being sandwiched between the front portion and the fitting member,

the wiper blade main-body including a mounting pin that extends orthogonally to the longitudinal direction of the wiper blade, and

the side portion of the fixing member including a mounting hole for receiving the mounting pin,

wherein the connecting portion connects the fitting member and the fixing member together at an end portion of the joint member.